requested to adhere to the time schedule. The likely estimated expenditure to be spent on the project will be available on finalization of 'Action Plan'.

Clearance to pending projects

534. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government implements some infrastructure projects on a 50:50 basis with State Governments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many projects are pending due to non-availability of funds;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when, all pending projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Undisrupted DMRC rail operations

535. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a snag hit Delhi Metro Rail run for three hours on line 3 between Dwarka and Barakhamba Road on 17th January, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure undisrupted service in all sections of DMRC rail operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The disruption was caused due a point problem at Dwarka station, which was not correctly set for the movement of a train and the train was stopped by the train operator over the point by applying emergency brake.

(c) (i) During non-revenue hours in the night, all systems and equipment including that of trains are extensively inspected and checked.

(ii) All failures/disruptions are thoroughly analysed and follow-up action taken.

(iii) Refresher training is organized on a regular basis for safety critical category of staff.

Proposal for Mega Cities

†536. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several States have sent the proposals for declaring their cities as Mega Cities;

(b) if so, the names of these cities; and

(c) the efforts made by Government thereon, city-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There were requests from Chief Minister of Gujarat and Chief Minister of Kerala for inclusion of Ahmedabad and Thiruvananthapuram respectively under Mega City Scheme.

(c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Infrastructure Development in Mega Cities, cities having a population of 40 lakh, as per 1991 census, were included. Since both Ahmedabad and Thiruvananthapuram were not having a population of 40 lakh as per 1991 census, these two cities were not included under the Mega City Scheme.

Mega City Scheme has since been subsumed under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) launched by the Government on 03.12.2005 for providing reforms linked Central assistance for select 63 cities. The scheme includes Ahmedabad and Thiruvananthapuram.

Environment in big cities

537. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects formulated and being implemented by Government for improvement of environment in the various small and big cities of the country during the last three years;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.